NEWS RELEASE



OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

San Diego, California

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam

For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U.S. Attorney Melanie K. Pierson (619) 557-5685

For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - May 16, 2005

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that Stephen P. Lewis and Pamela J. Lewis, a Florida couple, were sentenced today in federal district court in San Diego for their roles in the internet pharmacy fraud known as "MyRxForLess." United States District Court Judge Jeffrey T. Miller sentenced Stephen P. Lewis to serve two years in custody and a \$5,000 fine, following his plea to Conspiracy to Sell Unapproved Drugs and Conspiracy to Launder Money. His wife, Pamela J. Lewis, was sentenced to serve five months in custody, followed by five months of home detention, and a \$2,000 fine, following her plea of guilty to Conspiracy to Sell Unapproved Drugs. Judge Miller also ordered the couple to forfeit \$18,000 from the proceeds of the sale of their home in Boynton Beach, Florida, as well as the funds in three bank accounts, totaling approximately \$150,000.

In connection with their guilty pleas, the Lewiss admitted that beginning in December 2002, and continuing up to the time of their arrest on November 5, 2004, they, together with Bill Naron, operated an Internet pharmacy business, known as MyRxForLess, located in Lake Worth, Florida. MyRxForLess had

a website by which customers could order prescription drugs without having a prescription. The website

falsely stated that all the drugs sold were obtained from a reputable Mexican pharmacy, and falsely indicated

that individuals could lawfully import a 90-day supply of prescription pharmaceuticals into the United States

from Mexico.

Stephen Lewis arranged to have others purchase pharmaceuticals in Mexico and ship them to the

customers of MyRxForLess through the mails. MyRxForLess also purchased monthly shipments of "generic"

Viagra and "generic" Cialis from Mark Kolowich, in San Diego, California, knowing that these

pharmaceuticals were manufactured for Kolowich by persons in India and Mexico. These monthly shipments

of "generic" Viagra and Cialis were distributed to customers of MyRxForLess. These "generic"

pharmaceuticals could not be lawfully imported or sold in the United States because they were not approved

for sale in the United States by the Food and Drug Administration, they were labeled in the Spanish language,

and because neither MyRxForLess, nor any of its officers or employees possessed a license to import or to

make wholesale purchases or sales of prescription pharmaceuticals. The value of the illegal pharmaceuticals

sold by MyRxForLess for the period from December 2002 to November 5, 2004, was between \$1 million and

\$2.5 million.

Mark Kolowich, the owner of World Express Rx, previously pled guilty to conspiring to sell

counterfeit pharmaceuticals, commit mail fraud, and smuggle pharmaceuticals, and to conspiracy to launder

money. He was sentenced to serve a prison term of 51 months and to forfeit substantial cash proceeds.

Charles William Naron also earlier pled guilty to conspiracy, conspiracy to launder money and to

criminal forfeiture. He is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge Miller on June 6, 2005, at 9:00 a.m.

DEFENDANTS

Stephen Phillip Lewis Boynton Beach, Florida Criminal Case No. 04-CR-3068-JM

Pamela June Lewis

Criminal Case No. 04-CR-3067-JM

Boynton Beach, Florida

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Conspiracy, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371 (all defendants)

Maximum Penalty: 5 years in custody and/or \$250,000 fine

Conspiracy to Launder Money, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h)

(As to defendant: Stephen Phillip Lewis)

Maximum Penalty: 20 years in custody and/or \$500,000 fine

Criminal Forfeiture, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 981 or 982 (all defendants)

AGENCIES

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Food and Drug Administration - Office of Criminal Investigations
Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigations Division
Immigration and Customs Enforcement - Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Postal Inspection Service
Chula Vista Police Department